



**U.S. AIR FORCE**

# **An AF BEE's Experiences Supporting Army Preventive Medicine Missions**

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Deployment
- Summary/Conclusion



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# Introduction

- Mission: (1<sup>st</sup> PMTAF)
  - ✦ Provide preventive medicine support to U.S. forces at all Army Camps in Northern Kuwait.

- Personnel

BEE

PHO

4 BEE Techs

4 PHO Techs

Pest Mgmt Tech



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# Pre-Deployment

- Deployment Env & Occ Health Surveillance Course
  - ✦ Ft Sam Houston
  - ✦ Intro to Army Structure
    - ◆ Company - Battalion - Brigade
  - ✦ Intro to Env & Occ Health Program in theater
  - ✦ Discussion with prior PMTAF members
  - ✦ Enabled smooth transition in Kuwait



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# Deployment

- 1<sup>st</sup> PMTAF
  - ✦ Northern Kuwait
- 2<sup>nd</sup> PMTAF
  - ✦ Southern Kuwait
  
- 3 AF rotations in 2004 for both teams
- Deployment Confusion
  - ✦ Army – deploys units
  - ✦ AF – deploys people



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# Chain of Command

- TACON: Army
- ADCON/OPCON: AF

## Army

CFLCC

MED BDE

MED Battalion

PMTAF

## AF

CENTAF

AEW

EMG

PMTAF



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# Chain of Command

- Army sometimes crossed the lines into ADCON
  - ✦ Personnel Issues
  
- Resolution
  - ✦ Comm with CFLCC/MED BDE
  - ✦ Med BDE/CC & EMG/CC



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# Execution of Duties

- Initial meeting with every Camp Commander
- Assigned NCOIC to each Camp
  - ✦ Pre-trip preparedness
  - ✦ Base Camp Assessment
  - ✦ Resolution of non-routine issues
    - ◆ PMTAF CC/XO
- In-brief & Out-brief Commander each visit
- Process Successful
  - ✦ Good communication
  - ✦ Camp CCs aggressively resolved concerns



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# Primary Duties

Water Quality

Heat Stress

Env Monitoring

Food Safety

Camp Sanitation

Disease Control/Prev

Field Sanitation Team Training

➤ Army

✦ Routine Surveillance: Base-/Camp-wide

➤ AF

✦ Routine Surveillance: Shop Level



# Water Truck Inspection

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# Heat Stress





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# Env Monitoring





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# Items of Interest

- Expired Bottled Water
- Water Truck Interiors
- Fit testing contractors
- Noise
- Entomology – MED BDE Entomologist
  - ✦ Birds on Flightline
  - ✦ Filth Flies
  - ✦ Bed Bugs
- Vehicle Maint



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# Equipment

- Rad
  - ✦ Army Equip: cGy
  - ✦ AF Equip: mR
- Bio
  - ✦ No HHA or Hazmat ID
- Chem
  - ✦ Detector tubes, CAM, M-256
  - ✦ No HAPSITE



# Summary/Conclusion

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- Examples of deployed environmental and occ health issues are not unique to a particular service
- Technical Issues
  - ✦ No Problems
  - ✦ AF & Army have different skill sets within each specialty
    - ◆ My Recommendations:
      - ◆ Entomologist & PHO at northern sites
      - ◆ BEE & PHO at southern sites
      - ◆ No Pest Mgmt Tech if services contracted out
      - ◆ Contract Vehicles for PMTAF
- Admin/Organization
  - ✦ AF had to adapt to Army terminology and structure
- Prev Med = Prev Med